

Northwoods by Amy Pease
Book Club Discussion Guide #1

- 1) If you could run into one of these characters at the local coffee shop, who would you most want to chat with? Why?
- 2) If they made Northwoods into a movie, who would you cast as Eli? Marge? Alyssa?
- 3) The book features several intense parent-child relationships. Which one resonated with you the most and why?
- 4) What did you think about the romantic tension between Eli and Alyssa? Were you rooting for them to get together?
- 5) Which scene in the book had you on the edge of your seat the most?
- 6) Shaky Lake is almost like a character itself. Would you want to vacation there? Why or why not?
- 7) Were you surprised by Jake's betrayal? What clues did you pick up on looking back?
- 8) Who was your favorite supporting character and why?
- 9) What do you think happens to Rachel after the book ends? Does she stay clean?
- 10) If there was a sequel, what would you want to see happen?

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Book Club Discussion Guide #2

1. What did you think about how mental health and PTSD were portrayed through Eli's character? Did it feel authentic?
2. The story deals a lot with loyalty - to family, friends, employers. Which character's choices about loyalty interested you most and why?
3. Small towns often have lots of secrets. How does Shaky Lake's "everyone knows everyone" atmosphere help or hurt the investigation?
4. Both Eli and Rachel struggle with addiction, but in very different ways. How did their stories compare? Did you feel differently about one versus the other?
5. Marge has to balance being both a mother and a boss to Eli. How do you think she handles this challenge? What would you do differently?
6. The book shows several different kinds of love - romantic, parental, friendship. Which relationship in the book meant the most to you and why?
7. How did you feel about the ending? Was justice served? Were there any loose ends you wished had been tied up?
8. The pharmaceutical company storyline reflects real-world issues. Did this part of the plot change how you think about the opioid crisis?
9. Several characters have to choose between doing what's legal and what's right. Whose moral dilemma did you find most interesting?
10. Trust is a big theme in the book - trusting others, trusting yourself. Which character's journey with trust did you find most compelling?